

Atty. Docket No.: 448564/0044
LR-MWS:GSP



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masaki Suzuki et al.

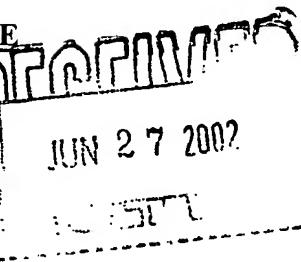
Serial No.: 10/024,993

Art Unit: 1773

Filed: December 18, 2001

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM



May 29, 2002

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

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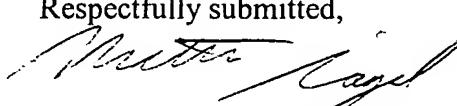
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In order to understand their relevance, all documents are discussed in the Specification of the present patent application. More specifically, the Examiner is directed to page 2, line 16 for a discussion of JP2829972, page 3, line 2 for JP-A-11-175959 and page 3, line 9 for JP-B-3-45447. For the Examiner's convenience, copies of all documents cited in the enclosed Form PTO-1449 are provided by applicants.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. However, should any fees be due, applicants hereby authorize the Assistant Commissioner to charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

Respectfully submitted,


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